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21 July 2003

by

Jeffrey B. Oster
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: David L. Putnam and Todd Hubbard

Serial No.: 09/888,805

Filed: 25 June 2001

For: PROCESS FOR FORMING POLYMER STRUCTURES CONTAINING AN OXYGEN SENSOR

Docket No.: PHOTO-3

Examiner: Lyle Alexander

Art Unit: 1743

Date: 21 July 2003

Director of Patents
Mail Stop Non Fee Amendment
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Amendment A

Sir:

This is in response to an Office Action dated 20 February 2003 for the above-identified patent application. Kindly extend the time for response two months, up to and including 21 July 2003.

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified patent application in view of the following response. Claims 6-10 are pending.

35 U.S.C. 102 Rejection

Claims 6-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as anticipated by WO 98/15645. The Examiner alleges that WO 98/15645 "teach a biological indicator utilizing an oxygen sensing means utilizing the claimed indicators and polymers." The Examiner further speculates that the "biological indicator of WO 98/15645 is used in a closed package environment that is